CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The claims are not amended. A complete listing of the claims, including their current status, is set forth below.

1-5 **(cancelled)**

6. **(Previously presented)** A method that allows a probe and target to specifically hybridize at a temperature lower than their standard hybridization temperature, comprising:
   (a) heating the probe and target in the presence of a chemical component of the formula:
   $R(NH_2)C=O$
   where R is an amino or a methyl group; and
   (b) allowing the probe and target to hybridize,
   wherein said probe is an oligonucleotide probe covalently linked the surface of a microarray.

7. **(Previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 6, wherein said probe and target are heated to a temperature that is lower than their standard hybridization temperature.

8. **(Previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 6, further comprising adding said chemical compound to a solution prior to heating step (a).

9-14. **(cancelled)**

15. **(Previously presented)** A method that allows a probe on a micro array surface to specifically hybridize to a target at a temperature lower than their standard hybridization temperature, comprising:
   (a) heating the probe and target in the presence of a chemical component of the formula:
   $R(NH_2)C=O$
   where R is an amino or a methyl group; and

(b) allowing the probe and target to hybridize,

wherein said probe is an oligonucleotide probe covalently linked to the surface of a microarray.

16. **(Previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 15, wherein said probe and target are heated to a temperature that is lower than their standard hybridization temperature.

17. **(Previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 15, further comprising adding said chemical compound to a solution prior to heating step (a).

18. **(Previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 6, wherein said chemical component is urea.

19. **(Previously presented)** A method that allows a probe and target to hybridize at a temperature lower than their standard hybridization temperature, comprising:

(a) heating the probe and target in the presence of acetamide; and

(b) allowing the probe and target to hybridize,

wherein said probe is an oligonucleotide probe attached to the surface of a glass substrate.

20. **(Previously presented)** A method for detecting nucleic acids using a microarray, comprising:

contacting a sample comprising labeled nucleic acids with an addressable microarray of oligonucleotide probes covalently linked to a surface of a glass substrate in a hybridization buffer comprising urea; and

detecting labeled nucleic acids that specifically hybridize to said oligonucleotide probes.

21. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 20, wherein said contacting is done at a hybridization temperature of about 50°C.

22. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 20, wherein urea is present in said hybridization buffer at a concentration of about 5M.

23. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 20, wherein urea is present in said hybridization buffer at a concentration of about 4M.

24. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 20, wherein said oligonucleotides are 60-mer oligonucleotides.